



EST. 1851

PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF CORONER-MARSHAL

MAIN OFFICE
2929 RICHARDSON DR.
AUBURN, CA 95603
PH: (530) 889-7800 FAX: (530) 889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION
DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
PH: (530) 581-6300 FAX: (530) 681-6377



EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

DEVON BELL
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Thursday, January 26, 2012
Date/Time of Occurrence: Tuesday, January 24, 2012
Nature of Event: Two Women Arrested in Credit Card Scam
Location of Call: Placer County, CA
Released by: Dena Erwin, PIO (530) 889-6901

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

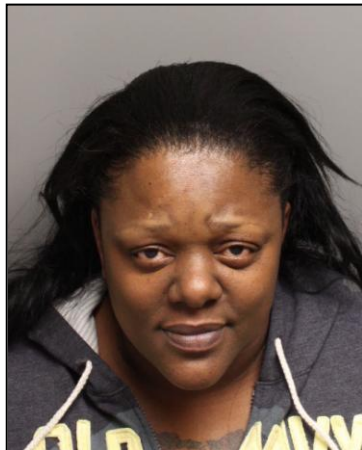
Two Bay Area women were arrested by Placer County Sheriff's deputies Tuesday as they attempted to leave the area after purchasing thousands of dollars of gift cards with counterfeit credit cards.

Monique Smith, 38, of Brentwood, and Bailey Lucas, 21, of Hayward, were arrested near Interstate 80 and Highway 65 Tuesday afternoon by deputies who were watching the busy roadways for the suspected getaway car.

Investigation has revealed that the women visited Target stores in Lincoln, Roseville and Auburn that day, purchasing VISA gift cards with counterfeit credit cards. Security officers at the Auburn Target store became suspicious and began watching Lucas and also notified patrol deputies. When Lucas's transaction did not go through, the woman grabbed her belongings and ran from the store. Security officers got the getaway car's description and it was broadcast to deputies. Minutes later, both women were arrested.

A search of the vehicle revealed more than 70 VISA gift cards. The investigation is continuing and all victims whose credit cards were skimmed are being contacted. It appears that all victims are from Florida, detectives said.

As always, citizens are reminded to never give their credit card numbers to anyone except a reputable business.



Monique Smith



Bailey Lucas